

Foothill Transit Governing Board

MINUTES

The Special meeting of the Foothill Transit Governing Board was held Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at the Foothill Transit Board Room, 2nd Floor, 100 South Vincent Avenue, West Covina.

Chair De La Torre called the meeting to order at 7:51 a.m. The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Corey Calaycay
Robert F. Rodriguez
Paula Lantz
Emmett Badar
Tom King
Keith Hanks
Marlen Garcia
Peggy A. Delach
Gene Murabito
Roger Chandler

Richard G. Barakat
John Fasana
Becky A. Shevlin
Margaret McAustin
Carol Herrera
Jeff Parriott
Hector Delgado
Michael De La Torre
David C. Rodriguez

Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Chandler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2009

The minutes for the Governing Board meeting of November 6, 2009, were approved as submitted.

Motion: Member Delach, seconded by Member Murabito
Vote: Unanimously carried
Abstain: Member King

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

TRUST FUNDING PROTECTION INITIATIVE

David Reyno, Director of Government Relations, reported the following:

- Over the last three budget cycles, approximately \$4 billion have been diverted from state transit funding to the general fund producing a serious budget deficit.
- In February 2009, the State legislature eliminated the State Transit Assistance (STA) program until 2013.
- On October 20, 2009, a coalition of local government, transportation and public transit leaders filed a ballot measure, called the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act of 2010 with the California Attorney General's office. The coalition consists of the League of California Cities, the California Transit Association (CTA), Californians to Protect Local Taxpayers and Vital Services, and the California Alliance for Jobs.
- To qualify the initiative for the November 2010 State ballot, 700,000 signatures must be turned in by April 26, 2010. The campaign has set a target to gather at least 1.1 million signatures to guarantee qualification; to date 500,000 signatures have been gathered.
- The initiative has no direct impact on the Foothill Transit budget; however, if approved, Foothill Transit could receive an excess of \$10 million in STA funding.

The Governing Board received and filed the update on the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010.

Motion: Vice Chair Chandler, seconded by Member Calaycay

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET PREVIEW

Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance, presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Preview and reported the following:

- At the February 25, 2010 Executive Board Strategic Planning Workshop, the Fiscal Year 2010 budget projection was reviewed, which identified a \$12.5 million deficit at current service levels.
- Several options were presented to the Executive Board to address the anticipated deficit which included, fare increases; reducing non-service related (administrative) expenditures; reducing service; and using funding reserved for future capital and/or operational needs.

- The Executive Board gave preliminary direction to develop the Fiscal Year 2011 budget based on a reduction of administrative costs by approximately \$2.5 million and service cost by approximately \$10 million. Some cost reductions will depend on negotiations with vendors, and others will depend on customer feedback relating service reductions.
- The reductions in administrative costs include:
 - Closure of the El Monte Transit Store
 - Elimination of a printed Bus Book
 - Major reductions in marketing and communication costs and related activities
 - Reduction in travel and meeting expenses
 - Elimination of five full-time and four part-time administrative staff positions
 - Eliminating the annual increase in the management services contract for FY11
 - Eliminating the Annual Bus Roadeo
- Following a series of public meetings/hearings, a budget will be drafted for review by the Administrative Advisory Committee in April 2010 followed by a review of the Executive Board, and presented to the Governing Board for adoption on May 12, 2010. If approved, service reductions would be targeted for implementation at the beginning of the Fiscal Year (July 1, 2010).

The Governing Board received and filed the FY 2011 Budget Preview.

Motion: Vice Chair Chandler, seconded by Member Calaycay

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2011 SERVICE REDUCTIONS

LaShawn Gillespie, Director of Planning, distributed "Foothill Transit Fiscal Year 2011 Service Reduction Proposal," and reported the following:

- The Proposal was reviewed at Foothill's Strategic Planning Retreat in early February 2010, and presented at the Executive Board meeting on February 26, 2010. Proposed service reductions, which total an annualized budget reduction of \$9,919,587, were evaluated based on the following criteria: 1) Average weekday boardings, 2) boardings per service hour; 3) connectivity throughout the system and region, and 4) coverage throughout the service area.
- A public outreach campaign and public hearings will be launched for consideration of proposed service changes, and as required by the Federal Transit Administration.

- Final action on the proposed service reductions, and adoption of the of the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget will be considered by the Governing Board at the May 12, 2010, meeting.

Mr. Barnes noted the tentative public hearing dates and their locations:

- March 24, 2010 – Metro San Gabriel Valley Sector
- March 31, 2010 – City of Industry Council Building
- April 1, 2010 - Kanisha Community Center, Pomona
- April 23 or 25, 2010 – Duarte City Hall and Community Center (location unconfirmed).

The Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to conduct public hearings regarding the Proposed FY 2011 Service Reductions.

Motion: Member Calaycay, seconded by Member Delach

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Documents\)](#)

FOOTHILL TRANSIT ECOLINER UPDATE

George Karbowski, Director of Operations & Maintenance, distributed the 4th issue of the "Foothill Transit Electric Bus Project Report," and gave the following report:

- Testing of the Ecoliner bus components (battery, charger, etc.) will be done in Pomona this March 2010, and the results will be presented to the Executive Board in April 2010.
- The first Ecoliner bus will debut in Pomona in Summer 2010. A major press event is planned at the christening of the coach.
- The Southern California Air Quality Management District has voiced its approval on the project.
- Thanks to Foothill Transit's support, Proterra announced that it will build a new research and manufacturing facility in Greenville, South Carolina. Proterra will partner with Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research to expand research on battery electric transit buses. The facility will open in 2011, and is anticipated to hire 1,300-2,600 employees.

Mr. Karbowski acknowledged Mr. Joshua Goldman, Business Management Director, Proterra who was in attendance.

The Governing Board received and filed the Foothill Transit Ecoliner Update.

Motion: Chair De La Torre, seconded by Member Murabito

Vote: Unanimously carried

([See Supporting Documents](#))

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENT

Doran Barnes, Executive Director, reported the following:

- The next Governing Board meeting, traditionally held in the evenings, will be held at 7:45 am on May 12, 2010.
- At the May 12th Governing Board meeting, Cluster 5 (County Cluster) will select its representatives to the Executive Board for the upcoming three-year period.

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Member Herrera stressed the importance of communicating with riders to increase ridership; the Diamond Bar City Hall sells bus passes in its premises and provides route information which encourage public transportation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Governing Board adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Staff and Guests present:

Doran Barnes, Executive Director
Kevin McDonald, Deputy Executive Director
David Reyno, Director of Government Relations
Darold Pieper, Legal Counsel
LaShawn Gillespie, Director of Planning
Dietter Aragon, Planning Manager
Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance
George Karbowski, Director of Operations & Maintenance
Linda Somilleda, Director of Marketing & Communications
Joshua Goldman, Proterra
Martha Arana, Commission Services Staff